

**REMARKS****Claims**

With respect to the claims, applicant has cancelled claim 1 and includes herewith claims 2 through 54 for purposes of better claiming the subject matter disclosed in the application. Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been inserted into the application by virtue of these added claims.

**Drawings**

With respect to the drawings, applicant submits that the new corrected formal drawings include a limited number of different number designations which correspond to those designations found in the amended specification. Changes made to the number designations were made only for purposes of clarity.

In particular, applicant's replacement of designation "4" with the designation "20" in Fig. 11 and the addition of designation "20" in Figs. 12 and 13 were made for purposes of allowing the Examiner to more easily distinguish between the embodiment of the fastener found in Figs. 11 through 14 from those which do not incorporate this embodiment.

In addition, applicant replaced designation "40", which originally referred to the grommets disclosed in the application, with designation "60", because designation "40" was already being utilized to refer to the "installation extension" found in Figs. 23 and 24. Similarly, the changes in the specification relating to these designations were made with the changes to the drawings in mind for purposes of consistency.

Further, applicant's changes to the drawings which include the suppression of words and dimensions found in the original figures were also made for purposes of clarity and for the Examiner to better understand the invention. However, applicant does not intend these changes to be a waiver or surrender of any patentable (or claimable) subject matter. Applicant also submits that no new matter has been added to the application by virtue of the changes to the drawings.

**Specification**

The amendment on page 5, lines 3-7, adding designations "4" and "20", were made for purposes of consistency, keeping in mind the changes to the drawings. The amendment in page 5, lines 17-26 adding designation "60" was similarly made for purposes of consistency, keeping in mind the changes to the drawings.

With respect to the amendment to the specification in page 6, lines 22-33 and page 7, lines 8-16, applicant felt it for purposes of clarity to insert language relating to designations "26"

and "30," respectively, which are referenced in the drawings, but which were not referred to in the specification.

With respect to the amendment on page 5, lines 17-26, inserting an "A" (following the "2" that was already present), and the amendment on page 7, lines 17-25, inserting an "A" (following the "28" that was already present), these minor corrections were for purposes of consistency with the drawings.

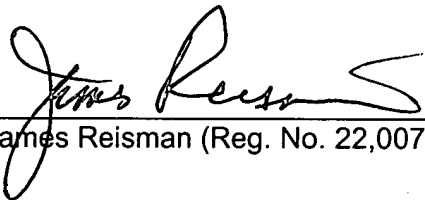
Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been inserted into the application by virtue of the amendments to the specification.

Applicant submits that the application as amended presents novel and non-obvious subject matter and is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

GOTTLIEB, RACKMAN & REISMAN, P.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10016  
Phone: (212) 684-3900  
Fax: (212) 684-3999

Date: April 6, 2004

  
James Reisman (Reg. No. 22,007)